

M. Spitznas, H. Quiroz-Mercado: Understanding Fluorescein Angiography, Fluoresceinangiografie verstehen, Entendiendo Angiografia con Fluoresceina

Sebastian Wolf

Received: 23 February 2007 / Accepted: 16 March 2007 / Published online: 13 April 2007
© Springer-Verlag 2007

The aim of this multi-language book is to provide an insight into basic phenomena of fluorescein angiography. Dr. Spitznas aims to describe the optical, mechanical, and dynamic background fluorescein angiographic findings. He describes with great detail the optical background of fluorescein angiographic findings. These are nicely documented with excellent illustrations of the retinal and choroidal vessels in health and disease. In the chapter on dynamic phenomena, Dr. Spitznas limits his discussion to the diffusion of fluorescein in the ocular tissue. In great detail he explains the function of the inner and outer blood retinal barrier. This description is nicely accompanied by very instructive graphs and angiographic images. However, he limits his description to very few diseases and fails to discuss the clinical relevance of the phenomena.

The excellent illustrations are the highlight of this book. The text in English, German, and Spanish versions is

written at a basic level, yet seems to cover the integral points of its subject matter. The fact that the book is written in three languages limits the space for text. This may explain the lack of a more detailed discussion of the clinical relevance of fluorescein angiographic findings.

The book aims to give retina specialists, general ophthalmologists, and basic scientists valuable information on the principles of fluorescein angiography. Taking the lack of a detailed discussion concerning diagnostic and clinical relevance into account, I feel the book is most suitable for the basic scientist interested in the explanation of the mechanics behind fluorescein angiography. For the more clinically oriented reader, the text could be elaborated more completely. Overall, the book is well-written, concise, and illustrated with excellent material. It is an excellent explanation of the basic mechanics behind fluorescein angiography.

S. Wolf (✉)
Department of Ophthalmology, University Inselspital,
Bern CH-3010, Switzerland
e-mail: sebastian.wolf@insel.ch